

2020 Annual Report



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AT A GLANCE

Vision: A Safer Maryland

Mission: To serve as a coordinating office that advises the Governor on criminal justice strategies. The office plans, promotes, and funds efforts with government entities, private organizations, and the community to advance public policy, enhance public safety, reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, and serve victims.

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services is the designated State Administering Agency (SAA) for Maryland. As required by federal statute, the Governor appointed this office to lead the state in comprehensive criminal justice planning and policy development. The office allocates resources statewide and works to distribute, monitor, and report on spending under state and federal programs. As the executive branch agency designated to accept, plan, and distribute criminal justice funds, we seek to leverage state and federal grant dollars to address the needs of statewide and local criminal justice systems. We further serve as the primary coordinating body for state and local public safety issue identification, system collaboration, policy development, as well as system planning and implementation. Our responsibilities require us to work closely with a multidisciplinary team of state and local entities to achieve our **key objectives**:

- 1. Develop and support coordinated criminal justice strategies utilized at the local, state, and federal level that reduce violence, and target repeat offenders.
- 2. Improve victim services for Maryland residents; enabling them to better achieve safety, self-sufficiency, and knowledge of resources available to them.
- 3. Utilize holistic, multidisciplinary, and trauma-informed approaches to improve child wellbeing.
- Maximize the public safety returns on Maryland's corrections spending by providing alternatives to incarceration, and deflect behavioral health issues to the public health system in Maryland.
- 5. Increase the availability of data-driven approaches to the justice system in Maryland.

2020 By the Numbers

\$194 million in total funding 960 grant awards 358 implementing agencies

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

To fulfill our objectives and achieve Governor Larry Hogan's vision of a safer Maryland, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services focuses its efforts and resources to address needs of law enforcement, youth-serving organizations and agencies, as well as organizations providing support and services for victims of crime in Maryland. Our office aims to provide a comprehensive, holistic approach to reducing violent crime, improving child well-being, and providing resources for people impacted by crime and violence.



LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, under the leadership of the Hogan-Rutherford Administration, is committed to supporting law enforcement agencies, their goals, and strategies, through collaboration. This includes aligning agency goals and strategies with goals and strategies supported by the Governor; providing local, state, and federal law enforcement with financial resources; and monitoring to measure impact on the overall vision for a safer Maryland.

Maryland continues to invest in public health and public safety partnerships to give law enforcement new tools and partners to help secure our communities. Enforcement efforts over the past year have been supported through various strategies.

Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network

The Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN) is composed of state, local, and federal law enforcement across the state tasked with identifying, disrupting, and dismantling criminal organizations through collaboration and data sharing. The coalitions focus on criminal gangs, as well as organizations that engage in drug trafficking, firearms trafficking, and human trafficking.

In 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services expanded the MCIN program into Baltimore County and Harford County for a total of 14 coalitions with more than 140 local, state, and federal partnerships.



2020 MCIN Results

431 criminal organizations identified
282 firearms seized
175 drug trafficking organizations
disrupted or dismantled
15 human trafficking organizations
disrupted or dismantled
75 gangs disrupted or dismantled
20 firearms trafficking organizations
disrupted or dismantled
\$5.44 million in assets seized

2020 MCIN Sites

Allegany County
Annapolis City
Anne Arundel County
Baltimore City
Baltimore County
Carroll County
Cecil County
Dorchester County
Frederick County
Harford County
Montgomery County
Prince George's County
Washington County
Wicomico County

Heroin Coordinators

The Heroin Coordinator program is an important tool in combating the negative impact of addiction on communities across Maryland. Coordinators analyze data linking overdose victims to drug trafficking organizations operating within Maryland and across state lines. Heroin Coordinators monitor and track drug investigations, drug seizures, arrests, opioid overdoses, as well as other drug-related investigative activities. Coordinators work in partnership with the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), state probation and parole agents, as well as county health agencies, to analyze law enforcement data to aid in the referral of overdose victims to intervention services. In 2020, there were 22 heroin coordinator positions throughout the state.

2020 Heroin Coordinator Program Results

14,674 grams of illicit opioids seized
275 prescription opioid medications
seized
3,219 treatment referrals
1,124 investigations enhanced
438 drug dealers identified
163 firearms seized
19 drug trafficking organizations identified

Police-Led Diversion Programs

Police-led diversion programs redirect individuals away from the criminal justice system and towards public health resources at the earliest possible intervention point: police interaction. These diversion programs empower law enforcement as key decision-makers and allow them to use their discretion to refer individuals to intensive harm reduction case management services designed to increase health and well-being and lower the probability of future criminal activity and police interactions.

During 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services received \$6.4 million from the Department of Justice on behalf of the State of Maryland to support a coordinated, statewide effort to expand police-led diversion and responses to the opioid crisis in collaboration with the work of the Opioid Operational Command Center and the Maryland Department of Health. The Maryland Statistical Analysis Center (MSAC) will support action-oriented research, performance management, and evaluation of all sites involved in this initiative. This award is part of the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program FY 2019 statewide grant program, which provides resources to support state and local efforts to reduce violent crime and drug abuse, enhance public safety, and support victims of crime.

The office is currently supporting 10 subgrantees as they develop and implement diversion programs through funding and robust technical assistance. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services is also continuing outreach to additional jurisdictions around the state to encourage and support the development of these programs.

2020 Police Led Diversion Results

252 referrals to social services
93% of participants not rearrested
12 jurisdictions planning or implementing diversion programs
More than \$6.4 million invested in 2020

JUSTICE REINVESTMENT

The Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) is a nationwide data-driven approach to improve public safety, reduce corrections spending, and reinvest savings in strategies and programming that reduce crime as well as recidivism. JRI emphasizes treatment for those struggling with addiction; provides an opportunity to elevate the voice of victims; focuses prison beds on serious, repeat offenders; and strengthens community supervision through evidence-based practices. This office oversees the implementation of the Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) in Maryland and directs current as well as future reinvestment funding to JRI priorities.

Pre-Investment

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services has used state and federal grant dollars to invest in programs aligned with JRA's primary goals of diversion, rehabilitation, and reentry.

Since JRA took full effect on October 1, 2017, the state prison population has seen a decline in population, with many reductions representing non-violent offenders. According to the <u>Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services</u> (<u>DPSCS</u>) <u>Annual Data Dashboard</u>, the state prison population on October 1, 2020 was 16,101, which represents a 16.3% decline since JRA took effect.

The 2020 reduction in state prison population led to an increased reinvestment of \$9.6 million dollars. These funds are and will be used to support state and local interventions to further reduce recidivism and criminal justice system involvement through investments in evidence-based practices and community-based services.

In addition to a reduction in prison population, notable figures reported by DPSCS in response to JRA implementation include:

- Violent offenders serving a sentence for a person-based crime represented 84% of the state prison population in FY 2020.
- In FY 2020, the second largest sentenced population, representing 6.2% of the state prison population, were serving a sentence for a drug offense.
- Due to the declining state prison population and amid court closures in FY 2020, intakes decreased by 31%, according to the DPSCS Annual Data Dashboard.

JRA changed the interventions utilized in community supervision. Criminal case supervision outcomes in FY 2020 were the highest rate of satisfactory completions with 61% of criminal cases under community supervision closed successfully. Further, since the effective date of JRA, case closures due to technical revocation have dropped, with less than 5% of cases closed as a result of technical revocation, according to the DPSCS Annual Data Dashboard. In 2020, there were 64 inmates released on administrative parole. All probationers receive an evidence-based risk screening upon intake to improve outcomes under supervision. Most probationers were considered low-risk.

Oversight and Policy Development

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services coordinates and oversees the work of three JRA Boards. The Local Government Commission continues to monitor, recommend, and investigate evidence-based programming and gaps in services at the local level. The local commission also develops performance measures and monitors progress of JRA reinvestment funded grantees. The Advisory Board serves to

investigate data-collection and explore opportunities to improve Maryland's expungement system, as well as JRA-related aspects of the Juvenile Justice Reform Council. Throughout 2020, despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, members of the Oversight Board continued to convene and discuss implementation of JRA. Topics of discussion at convenings included the impact of COVID-19 on implementation of JRA, expungement, restitution, and legislation.

\$9.6 million in savings for reinvestment

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

At the conclusion of the 2019 Legislative Session, Governor Hogan signed the Child Sex Trafficking Screening and Services Act of 2019 into law. This created the Regional Navigator Grant Program, administered by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services. The program focuses on providing comprehensive support services for youth victims of sex trafficking up to age 24. In 2019, three pilot sites were developed, to include: the University of Maryland SAFE Center's Montgomery County Regional Navigator Services and Screening Program, the Washington County Department of Social Services Safe Place Child Advocacy Center, and the Cecil County Child Sex Trafficking Screening and Services Act Regional Navigator Project. In 2020, the program was expanded to 10 jurisdictions. The following sites joined the three pilots: Anne Arundel County Board of Child Care, Center for Hope: Baltimore Child Abuse Center, TurnAround, Inc. for Baltimore County, Heartly House for Frederick County, the Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource

Center for Harford County, the Howard County Police Department/Child Advocacy Center, and the University of Maryland SAFE Center for Prince George's County. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services is working to encourage the mandated expansion of the program to all 24 jurisdictions by January 2022.

During 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services dedicated more than \$17 million in grant funding to support anti-human trafficking efforts in the State of Maryland. The office also trained more than 120 people on how to recognize the signs of human trafficking, including first responders, medical professionals, faith-based organizations, and other members of the community. This number is considerably lower than 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH DIVISION

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services utilizes a comprehensive approach to improve child wellbeing through its Children and Youth Division. The Division's work includes addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), which research shows has a correlation with negative health and behavioral outcomes, and giving youth the opportunity to grow through positive interactions with the community and one another.

Maryland's Children's Cabinet

Maryland's Children's Cabinet, chaired by Glenn Fueston, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, coordinates the child and family-focused service delivery system by emphasizing prevention, early intervention, and community-based services for all children and families. The Children's Cabinet includes the Secretaries from the Departments of Budget and Management; Disabilities; Health; Human Services; and Juvenile Services; and the State Superintendent of Schools for the Maryland State Department of Education.

The Children's Cabinet priorities for funding align with Governor Hogan's strategic vision. Priorities include: increasing trauma-informed practices and preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); reducing the impact of parental incarceration on children, youth, families, and communities; reducing youth homelessness; improving outcomes for disconnected and opportunity youth; reducing childhood hunger; increasing opportunities for diversion to community-based programs and services; and preventing out-of-state placements.

Local Management Boards

Local Management Boards use the Results-Based Accountability framework to identify, evaluate, and develop the programs and strategies needed to address local community needs and provide resources for children and families in their jurisdiction. Local Management Boards bring together local child-serving agencies, child providers, youth, families, and communities to make decisions about priorities and deployment of resources to address local needs.

In 2020, Maryland's Children's Cabinet provided \$19.5 million from the Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund to Local Management Boards that supported 115 community-based programs focused on improving outcomes for Maryland's children and their families.

Boys & Girls Clubs

In 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services supported programming for six local Boys & Girls Clubs organizations in Maryland:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County;
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Frederick County;
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Harford and Cecil Counties;
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore;
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Washington County; and
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Westminster.

The Passport to Manhood program serves boys ages 11 to 14, and the S.M.A.R.T. Girls program serves girls ages 8 to 17. These programs provide an opportunity for youth to engage in positive mentoring relationships and explore topics on character, health, fitness, prevention education, and self-esteem.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic impacted various aspects of youth programming but Maryland's Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs worked diligently to provide virtual programming, Club on the Go opportunities, meals, and other services/supports to club members and their families.

Highlights from 2020 include:

- 23 total number of sites implementing evidence-based youth programming
- 81 community/athletic events held
- 3,619 community members participated in Boys & Girls Club activities/events
- 2,015 participants reported a positive attitude toward law enforcement
- 195 total number of public safety members participating

2,928 youth participated in Boys & Girls Club programming supported by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services in 2020.

Handle with Care Maryland

The <u>Handle with Care Maryland</u> initiative was designed to help children who are exposed to traumatic events through seamless and careful communication and collaboration between law enforcement and schools. Under the model, if a student has witnessed or experienced a traumatic experience, law enforcement will email the *Handle with Care* point of contact with the child's name, age or grade, and school if known. However, no details of the incident are shared.

The Handle with Care notice alerts a limited number of trusted adults that their student has experienced something traumatic, that may affect their mood or behavior. This is a "heads up" that the student(s) may need extra support and understanding as they process the traumatic event. The initiative seeks to mitigate Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) by providing trauma-informed care inside Maryland schools, which can help prevent future trauma, victimization, and delinquency. If a student needs additional support, schools

may refer the student to community-based services.

Handle with Care Maryland was able to operate virtually during the coronavirus pandemic, while schools implemented virtual learning. As schools begin to move to a hybrid learning structure or full in-person learning, Handle with Care Maryland is still able to operate to its full extent.

On September 23 and 24, 2020, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services welcomed Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford and more than 150 members of law enforcement, teachers, counselors, and mental health providers to the *Maryland Child well-Being Virtual Conference*. The two-day conference focused on sharing best practices for the *Handle with Care* program, trauma-informed practices, as well as providing participants with a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the impact that trauma can have on a child's ability to learn.

2020 Participating Counties

Anne Arundel **Baltimore City** Baltimore Caroline Carroll Cecil Charles Dorchester Frederick Garrett Harford Howard Queen Anne's St. Mary's Washington Wicomico

2020 Handle with Care Maryland Results

16 participating counties
769 participating schools
1,091 notices sent
1,261 students received
Handle with Care notices
143 students referred to
in-school mental health services
20 students referred to
out-of-school mental health services

VICTIM SERVICES

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services seeks to provide victims of crime resources and support they need to achieve safety, self-sufficiency, and awareness of services available to them. During 2020, the Victim Services Unit collaborated with numerous stakeholders and victim services providers on initiatives that will promote and enhance services available to crime victims across Maryland's 24 jurisdictions.

Addressing the Coronavirus Pandemic

The office, in consultation with the Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Family Violence Council, supported victim service providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the beginning of the pandemic, the Council and the Board met virtually to discuss the needs of victim service providers. These discussions guided priorities for coronavirus emergency funding the office received. Members identified the following issues due to the pandemic: communal living in shelters, utilizing hotels for shelter stays, developing leave policies for nonprofits, transferring hotlines to remote, programs obtaining personal protective equipment (PPE), needing confidential and secure platforms to provide services virtually, court closures, obtaining protective orders, and suspension of abuse intervention programs (AIPs). Programs had to quickly adapt in order to continue 24/7 services while being completely virtual. The office created a webpage on its website to provide resources for victims of crime during the pandemic. The resources include a directory of programs providing services during the pandemic, hotlines, information about COVID-19, mental health services, supportive services, legal services, compensation, housing, pet resources, and

State of Maryland resources. The website also provides guidance for victim service providers. The resources can be found at http://goccp.maryland.gov/covid19-victim-resources/. The office submitted a request for PPE to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency on behalf of victim service providers. In September 2020, the office received N95 masks, gowns, face shields, gloves, disinfectant sanitizing wipes, and hand sanitizer to provide to more than 30 nonprofit and governmental victim service providers.

HIV Prophylaxis (nPEP)

On October 1, 2019, the Sexual Assault Reimbursement Unit of the Victim Services Unit began reimbursement of non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) in compliance with <u>SB 657</u>. Under the new law, victims of sexual assault are able to receive a full 28-day supply of medication and the State of Maryland will reimburse for the cost of medication, as well as follow-up care for victims.

Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB)

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board provides financial assistance to crime victims who have suffered compensable injuries or loss after a crime. During the 2020 calendar year, the CICB processed 569 claims worth an estimated \$1.8 million.

Sexual Assault Reimbursement Unit (SARU)

The Sexual Assault Reimbursement Unit (SARU) provides reimbursement for the physical examination, collection of evidence, and emergency treatment of individuals for injuries resulting from alleged rape, sexual assault, or child sexual abuse. The SARU aims to prevent individuals and their families from re-victimization by easing the reimbursement process associated with medical-forensic claims processing. During the 2020 calendar year, the SARU processed 3,799 claims worth an estimated \$1.7 million.

Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention. Youth, and Victim Services, in collaboration with the Maryland State Board of Victim Services, sponsors the Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference each year during the nationally recognized Crime Victims' Rights Week. The conference brings together representatives of leading victim advocacy and service organizations to learn about innovative best practices and tools to serve victims of crime in Maryland. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in an effort to protect the health and safety of organizers, guests, and communities in Maryland, the 2020 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference was canceled.

Annual Memorial Services for Crime Victims and Families

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services, in partnership with the Victim and Witness Divisions of the State's Attorney's offices, and the Maryland State Board of Victim Services, sponsors four regional memorial services each year during the National Crime Victims' Rights

Week. The memorial services feature inspirational speakers, musical performances, and quiet reflection to honor more than 4,000 victims of homicide, vehicular manslaughter, missing persons, and their families. These memorial services provided a safe and supportive space for families of crime victims to congregate and share their stories. Many victim advocates help to coordinate the memorial services because they understand the importance of a positive outlet for families to cope with their grief and honor their loved ones. The *Annual Statewide Memorial Services* were canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Abuse Intervention Program Certification

The Governor's Family Violence Council serves as the certifying body for all abuse intervention programs (AIPs) in Maryland. Specifically, the Council certifies AIPs for inclusion in the Administrative Office of the Courts' *Bench Book for Maryland Judges* to refer abusers to appropriate intervention programs. In June 2020, the Council received five applications for AIP certification. Through a peer review process, the Council reviewed the applications. Three AIPs were certified or recertified. Two programs did not receive certification.

AIP certification is valid for three years from the date of issuance. Once certification status is issued, an audit may happen at any time during the three-year certification period to ensure programs are compliant with the AIP Operational Guidelines for Abuse Intervention Programs in Maryland set forth by the Council. In FY 2020, eight programs received an audit of which all resulted in a compliant outcome.

Domestic Violence Central Repository Certification

The Domestic Violence Violence Central Repository (DVCR) exists to collect and aggregate data concerning domestic violence or abuse. The Central Repository is managed by the Administrative Office of the Maryland Courts and it stores various records of shielded peace and protective

orders. Once we provide certification, organizations that meet the eligibility will have access to domestic violence records to help protect their clients. In March 2021, the office recertified 12 programs and provided certification for one new program. There are a total of 23 certified victim service providers.

GRANTS

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services awarded more than \$194 million in funding through 960 awards that began in calendar year 2020. This included over \$68 million in funding to victims and \$122 million to law enforcement.

Grant funding is one of several tools that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services utilizes to achieve its objectives. The office follows a deliberate process to ensure we are good stewards of the funds we administer, and that our grant administration process is efficient, customer-friendly, and aligned directly with our strategic goals.

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services is committed to customer-friendly and enhanced communication with applicants and awardees, providing

2020 Grant Outcomes

172,813 victims
served
17,351 protective
orders entered
22,450 youth served
7,772 guns seized
782 gun cases
referred for federal
prosecution

information on available grants on the office's website, as well as through the Governor's Grants Office listserv, and social media channels. The office has initiated the application process earlier to enable applicants to review the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) between three and four weeks before the application deadline, and informed organizations of the status of their applications two months prior to the start date of the award.

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services continues to review all funding sources and outside opportunities in order to maximize grant dollars spent on serving Maryland citizens and minimize administrative burdens.

COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services staffs and chairs a number of councils, committees, and boards to complement our strategic initiatives and investment, including:

Children's Justice Act Committee

Maryland's Children's Justice Act Task Force is federally mandated and addresses the administrative, judicial, and investigative handling of child abuse and neglect cases.

Criminal Injuries Compensation Board

A remedial body designed to provide aid and assistance to victims of crime in Maryland through claims, emergency awards, and interpretation services.

Governor's Council on Gangs and Violent Criminal Networks

Provides leadership, policy oversight, and the coordination of operational strategies to collect and share relevant data related to violent crime and victimization.

Governor's Family Violence Council

Provides the Governor with timely and accurate information on family violence with recommendations that will reduce and eliminate abusive behaviors.

Justice Reinvestment Advisory Board

Brings in criminal justice advocates and community stakeholders to help guide the analysis of reforms and their impacts.

Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board

Primary oversight body charged with implementing changes to criminal justice practices, calculating and reinvesting savings, and leading future reform.

Local Government Justice Reinvestment Commission

Provides local input and representation of JRA impacts and guides local reinvestment performance measurement.

Maryland State Board of Victim Services

Ensures all crime victims in the State of Maryland receive justice and are treated with dignity and compassion through comprehensive victim services.

Maryland Youth Advisory Council

Addresses relevant issues by influencing legislation, spreading public awareness, and serving as a liaison between youth and policymakers.

Maryland State Advisory Group

Advises the Governor and Legislature on compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice Reform Act, reviews and comments on grant proposals and monitors programs, participates in the development of the State's Three-Year Plan, and obtains input from juveniles in the system to inform policy decisions.

Learn more about other activities and work groups at http://goccp.maryland.gov/councils-commissions-workgroups/.

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032

Website: www.goccp.maryland.gov

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MarylandGOCCP

Twitter: https://twitter.com/MarylandGOCCP